



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

SANITARY REPORTS FROM OTHER PORTS.

BRAZIL.

Plague in Santos and Sao Paulo.

November 17.—Acting Assistant Surgeon Havelburg reports as follows: Up to the present time there have been 23 cases with 10 deaths; 7 cured (at Santos). At Sao Paulo there have been 2 cases. This is the situation at present writing, but the feeling is that we have seen the worst and from this time onward matters will improve.

CHINA.

Plague in Niuchang—From a correspondent.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, D. C., November 14, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose, for your information, a copy of a report received from the consul general at Shanghai with his dispatch of the 11th ultimo, upon the plague in Niuchwang.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY,
Secretary of State.

Hon. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

[Inclosure.]

Disease spreading.—On the 28th ultimo 40 deaths occurred within quite a small area of the native city, and the price of coffins has risen from 10 to 50 taels, showing that the disease is spreading rapidly. Two cases of plague have already occurred in foreign compounds situated at the extreme west and east of the Foreign Settlement. I am informed that four Russians have been seized with the plague at the Russian Settlement; and in spite of all this evidence of rapid increase we are to possess our souls in patience, for "instructions are hourly expected," and have been for the last ten days. It needs no prophetic inspiration to foretell what will happen if the Peking authorities maintain their passivity.

The Russians are not blind to the danger threatening the prosperity of their operations in Manchuria. They will be justified in raising the voice of protest when, in the face of such crass ineptitude to grapple with the difficulty, they take the management into their own hands, place the town and settlement under martial law, and carry out the necessary sanitary reform "by order of the Czar." Are they, fully alive as they are to the danger of the infection spreading beyond their frontier, likely to tacitly acquiesce in submission to the fatalistic ignorance of Celestial officialdom? I, for one, think not.

OCTOBER 2.

Proposed measures against the spread of plague.

PEKING, CHINA, September 30, 1899.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith copies of correspondence between this legation, the United States vice-consul at Niuchang, and the Tsung li yamen in regard to proposed measures against the spread of the bubonic plague, which now threatens all the treaty ports of north China.

It is hoped that the first frost will kill the germs of this most infectious and dangerous disease, but in the meantime the foreign residents of Niuchang are anxious to have such a strict quarantine established and maintained as will insure them against another outbreak in the spring.

If the disease once gains a foothold in the treaty ports, its spread over all north China may be accepted as a certainty, owing to the wretched sanitary condition of most Chinese cities and towns, and the impossibility of maintaining in the interior an effective quarantine against infected places.

The difficulty now seems to be one of funds, as the consular body at Niuchang has formulated plans which the Chinese authorities declare to be not only unnecessary, but also which call for a larger expenditure of money than they have available for that purpose.

It is not thought here that the effort to secure any considerable sum of money for quarantine purposes will be successful, since the Chinese Government hope that the frost, which is now due, will effectually check any further progress of the disease.

As a precautionary measure and in response to a request of the dean of the diplomatic corps, made at the instance of the consular body at Shanghai, the Tsung li yamen has ordered that no more coffins be exported from the port of Niuchang.

The Department will be kept fully informed as to the situation.

Respectfully,

E. H. CONGER.

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Correspondence.—Inclosure 1 in No. 263.]

NIUCHANG, *August 12, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that Dr. C. C. De Burgh Daly, medical officer at this port, has reported to the consuls that there is a sporadic outbreak of plague in the Chinese town, between 5 and 10 deaths occurring daily. The cooler weather having now commenced, I think it probable that the sickness will soon disappear.

Respectfully,

J. J. FRED'K BANDINEL,
Vice-Consul.

Hon. E. H. CONGER, *United States Minister, Peking.*

[Telegram.—Inclosure No. 2.]

NIUCHANG, *September 9, 1899.*

Chinese magistrate declines to adopt sanitary measures to abate plague. Grave danger to foreign community. Will you request Chinese Government to telegraph instructing magistrate to take immediate steps with consul and provide necessary funds? Other consuls are sending identical telegram.

BANDINEL.

AMERICAN LEGATION, *Peking.*

[Inclosure No. 3 in No. 263.]

PEKING, CHINA, *September 12, 1899.*

The undersigned, in the absence of the minister, has the honor to inform his highness and their excellencies of the Tsung li yamen that he is just in receipt of a telegram from the United States vice-consul at Niuchang to the effect that the Chinese magistrate at that place declines to adopt any sanitary measures against the plague for the adequate protection of Chinese or foreigners living there, and that the danger is very grave.

The undersigned is of the opinion that the necessary steps should be immediately taken to insure a strict quarantine of this port, as, if this scourge is once permitted to establish itself there, it will surely spread to the other northern ports, and not only be a great danger to the people, but a disturber of trade and commerce.

He therefore begs to request that his highness and their excellencies will cause telegraphic instructions to be sent to the magistrate directing him to take immediate steps, in cooperation with the foreign consuls, to establish and maintain a close quarantine, and that he provide the necessary funds for that purpose.

The undersigned avails himself of the occasion to renew to his highness and their excellencies the assurances of his highest consideration.

H. G. SQUIERS,
Secretary of Legation.

To His Highness PRINCE CHING,
And their excellencies of the Tsung li Yamen, etc.

[Translation—Inclosure 4 in No. 263.]

PEKING, *September 14, 1899.*

SIR: We have to acknowledge the receipt of your note regarding the plague at Niuchang (here quoted).

This yamen telegraphed accordingly to the military governor of Moukden and the viceroy at Tientsin directing them to instruct the customs taotai at Niuchang to cooperate with the consuls in concerting effective measures against the epidemic.

Respectfully,

Cards of yamen ministers inclosed.

Hon. H. G. SQUIERS,

Secretary of United States Legation, Peking.

[Inclosure 5 in No. 263.]

NIUCHANG, *September 22, 1899.*

SIR: The senior (Japanese) consul has just received a note from the taotai, that he can only spare 1,000 taels from the customs revenue, which is absurd.

We require 25,000 taels down and 8,000 taels monthly. Unless the Chinese Government promptly desire the taotai or the commissioner of customs to place these sums at our disposal, the Russians will advance the money or more and (so they say) our sanitary board need not trouble about repayment. This of course means annexation and small blame to them, for unless we have the power and money to cope promptly with the disease it will spread inland to European Russia and northeast to Alaska.

We have proposed inspection of all boats going into the interior, of all native and foreign vessels entering or leaving the river, quarantine, plague hospitals, observation camps, cleansing of drains and streets, house-to-house visitation, removal of infected to hospitals, disinfection of houses, destruction (with compensation) of infected clothes and bedding, compulsory burial outside the walls, no coffins to be stored inside or removed to other towns or buried inside the walls. The town to be divided into at least 10 wards; foreign and Japanese doctors to be engaged, and volunteers invited.

A sanitary board to be appointed, excluding the consuls, including a minority of influential Chinese. Chairman, the commissioner of customs.

If we have the funds and power granted us, it will be necessary to send 3 or 4 gun-boats here to protect the foreign residents and prevent a riot, which is otherwise very likely to occur.

Respectfully,

J. J. FRED'K BANDINEL,

Vice-Consul.

Hon. H. G. SQUIERS,

Secretary of United States Legation, Peking.

[Inclosure No. 7 in No. 263.]

NIUCHANG, *September 23, 1899.*

SIR: After I wrote to you yesterday the senior consul, Mr. Tanabe, called on the taotai and ascertained that his offer of 1,000 taels was consequent on a telegram from the tartar general, stating that the expenses of the sanitary measures were to be defrayed from the customs confiscation fund, and asking how much money was available from that fund.

The taotai also said that the plague had ceased (there are forty cases daily); that he had given orders to have the streets and drains cleansed; that next spring he would have the town supplied with fresh drinking water; that it would be impossible to persuade or compel the Chinese to remove their sick to hospitals, and that with the gratuitous dispensation of medicines his measures were ample.

To-day there was a meeting of consuls at which telegrams were read from the British and Japanese legations to the effect that the Tsung li yamen admitted the principle of our measures but considered our estimate of expenditure far too high.

We therefore decided to send a joint telegram to the tartar general urging him to instruct the taotai to provide the necessary funds in full and pointing out that otherwise the loss to the revenue, from the stoppage of trade, would far exceed the sums which we consider necessary, and mentioning that the funds were to be paid through the commissioner of customs, and that any money in excess of requirements would be retained and repaid through him.

I trust that you will succeed in inducing the Tsung li yamen to adopt and enforce these views.

Respectfully,

J. J. FRED'K BANDINEL,

Vice-Consul.

Hon. H. G. SQUIERS,

Secretary of United States Legation, Peking.

[Inclosure 8 in No. 263.]

PEKING, CHINA, *October 1, 1899.*

The legation has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the note of his highness and their excellencies of the 16th ultimo, in reply to the legation's note of the 12th ultimo, in reference to a proposed quarantine at Niuchang, in which it is stated that telegraphic instructions have been sent to the military governor at Moukden and to the viceroy at Tientsin directing them to instruct the customs taotai at Niuchang to cooperate with the consuls in concerting effective measures against the epidemic which now threatens that port.

It seems, however, that these orders are ineffective owing to lack of funds necessary to pay expenses of establishing the quarantine and carrying out the proposed sanitary regulations.

It is reported by the United States vice-consul there, that the customs taotai has only 1,000 taels available for the purpose, while the sum required is, in the opinion of the consular body, 25,000 taels immediately and 80,000 taels per month hereafter.

The legation is not entirely satisfied that this larger sum is absolutely necessary, but is quite of the opinion that the sum set apart is altogether inadequate.

The legation ventures to suggest that such a policy is short sighted and will in the end cost much more than a properly established quarantine, since, if this pest once gains a foothold in north China, as it surely will if not stamped out before the coming spring, China will lose, if not all, at least the greater part of her customs revenue from these treaty ports.

The legation begs to urge that the Tsung li yamen will cause the customs taotai at Niuchang to be at once provided with the necessary funds in order that there may be no further delay in not only establishing a close and strict quarantine at that port, but also to pay the cost of putting the city in proper sanitary condition, caring for the sick and disposing of the dead, as proposed by the consular body.

Respectfully,

H. G. SQUIERS,
Secretary of Legation.

[Inclosure 9 in No. 263.]

PEKING, CHINA, *October 1, 1899.*

SIR: The legation begs to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatches Nos. 336 and 337, dated September 22 and 23, in regard to the quarantine against plague at Niuchang, proposed sanitary regulations, etc.

The Tsung li yamen has again been urged to furnish sufficient funds to make the quarantine effective and to carry out the regulations your consular body has proposed, but it is believed that there is little prospect of success. The first demand for funds should have been, it is thought, more moderate. The amount allowed for the purpose at Tientsin is 1,000 taels per month, not including residence, medical staff, rent of land, use of customs, tidewaters and boats, which is considerably less than the amount said to be required for Niuchang, while the former port is much larger, of much more importance commercially, and would probably be a far more expensive port to quarantine. The demand has given the Chinese Government the opportunity wished for by them, to argue and procrastinate the matter until it is settled by "Jack Frost," and, as they hope, without any expense.

The legation will advise you by wire of the Tsung li yamen's reply to its last note.

Respectfully,

H. G. SQUIERS,
*Secretary of Legation.*Mr. J. J. FRED'K BANDINEL,
United States Vice-Consul, Niuchang.

[Inclosure No. 10 in No. 263.]

PEKING, CHINA, *October 2, 1899.*

SIR: The legation begs to confirm on the overleaf your telegram of the 30th ultimo and its reply of yesterday in regard to quarantine matters at Niuchang, and to inform you that the Tsung li yamen has again been strongly urged to place at the disposal of the customs taotai at that port a sum adequate to establish and maintain a quarantine and the sanitary regulations as proposed by the consular body.

As you were advised by the legation's dispatch No. 450, of the 1st instant, it is not thought here that any effort to secure the maximum amount demanded will be successful, and it would therefore seem advisable to accept the sum offered, make the best possible use of it, and, in case the conditions are the same when it is exhausted, to demand a further appropriation from the Chinese Government.

Respectfully,

H. G. SQUIERS,
*Secretary of Legation.*Mr. J. J. FRED'K BANDINEL,
United States Vice-Consul, Niuchang.

[Telegram.]

NIUCHANG, *September 30, 1899.*

Yamen instruct Taotai spend nothing, or at most 10,000 taels. Taotai says has no fund. Sum named altogether inadequate. Urge yamen authorize original estimate and whole scheme, and state what fund available. Communicate German, Dutch legations.

BANDINEL.

SQUIERS, *Peking.*

[Telegram.]

PEKING, *October 1, 1899.*

Have presented matter to yamen in strongest terms possible, but do not believe amount asked for will be allowed. Will advise by wire.

SQUIERS.

BANDINEL, *Niuchang.*

CUBA.

Reports from Cienfuegos, Tunas de Zaza, Trinidad, and Santa Cruz.—Yellow fever on steamship Euskaro at Cienfuegos.

CIENFUEGOS, CUBA, *November 13, 1899.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that, during the week ended November 11, 20 deaths have occurred in this city, 2 from malaria, 6 from intestinal diseases, and 1 from tuberculosis. No contagious diseases reported in this city. Death rate for the week is 26.07. Inspected during the week 14 vessels on arrival, and 10 previous to departure. No alien steerage passengers at this port for this week. The steamship *Euskaro*, Spanish, from Liverpool, arrived in this port Friday morning November 10, at 9 a. m., with Capt. L. Aralucea dead on board.

History of the vessel—*Euskaro* left Liverpool September 30, 1899, and touched at the following ports: Santander, October 6; Corunna, October 8; Vigo, October, 9; all being Spanish ports.

At these ports she took on 319 emigrants for Cuba. October 26, the ship reached Havana, where 310 immigrants were landed, the doctor on board leaving the vessel at this port. The vessel lay in open bay from October 26 to November 2; no one was allowed on shore except the captain, who went every day, and sometimes twice a day, remaining as late as 9 and 10 p. m.

The bill of health received at Havana recorded 53 cases of yellow fever and 13 deaths, with the words written on the face of bill "yellow fever increasing." The vessel left Havana on November 3, bill of health, clean. Arrived at Caibarien on November 4, and sailed on the 5th; bill of health clean, although the captain had received medical attendance for a slight indigestion. Arrived at Cienfuegos, November 10, 9 a. m., with body of captain who died on the 9th, at 9 p. m.

History of the case.—The captain was taken sick with slight headache, and pain in back, with nausea. No temperature taken. Arriving at Caibarien he had the medical attendance of the doctor, who prescribed lime juice, etc., for this nausea; on the 5th he was about the same; on the 7th he was much worse, and on the 8th the steward noticed a peculiar expression about the face, and saw he was a very sick man. On the 9th, eight hours before death, he commenced the vomiting of blood, which was black in appearance, and at 9 p. m. he expired. Pulse before vomiting, 62. He was constipated and passed very little urine. The body on inspection was very much swollen, and yellow, and fast turning black, although the weather was cool and not hot enough to cause rapid decomposition. With the above history, and the exposure at Havana, I pronounced it a very suspicious case, and